MYSINDIA DATED 10-2-1957

BANGALORE CLUB CELEBRATIONS.

Prof. U.S.Krishna Rao, Bangalore's popular exponent of Bharata Natyam had provided the floor show which was a special feature of the evening. Appearing onthe scene, the Professor said that as a change from Bharata Natam, he had arrange for his audience, a Kathakali Programme. In the first of the dances, "Kummi", he was accompanied by his wife Chandrabhaga Devi, whose delicate precision and grace make her an ideal partner for her skilled husband.

The second number, a Sari Dance, was executed by two promising young pupils Prema Nair and Pra ha, and the third, a folk dance had its own rustic appeal, Performers in this number were the Professor (unrecognisable with his long peasant beard) and Dolores Brandenbourg a flashing starry eyed brunnette.

Many cameras clicked to capture the charming poses of Chandrabagha Devi in the Mohini Attam that followed, and the last number a "Siva Tandavan" by Prof. Krishna Rao inwhich he was seen wearing a striking gold headdress, was quite stirring.

DECCAN HERDALD DATED 10-7-1957

BHARATA NATYAM LURES U.S.GIRL.

To a country that has always revelled, and continues to so much depend, on imports of fashions, fade and finished products - any even of export - an import of America, partic larly - merits approbation.

And when theitem of export happens to be a form of art, it is a mater for particular satisfaction, inasmuch as it has a multiplication effect abroad to glorify the Indian heritage.

The consignors and the consignees met at a neatral ground here yesterday and clinched the deal. The product for shipment was 11 year old Eileen, infected with the virtue of classical Bharata Natyam.

After the lapse of a long time, a Professor of Anthropology from the North-Western University of Evanstan, Illinois, came to Bangalore, in the course of an assignment of research into the Hindu ways of life, saw some fine things of Indian dances, music and painting and ultimately fell for Bharata Natyam.

That is Dr. Fancis L.K.Hsu, temporarily residing here with his wife and two daughters. He had let his elder daughter Eileen take to Bharata Natyam.

Dr. Hsu is a chinese born and a domiciled American. But Eileen is a hundred per cent American. Yet, the girld had shed some of the peculiar inhabitations of the Westerner and withing a brief space of two months grasped the true spirit behind the art.

Testimony to this fact was provided at a private view of Eileen's achievements by her tutors, thenoted couple Mrs. and Mr. U.S.Krishna Rao who had taken immense pains to train up the foreign girl with some special meal.

Eileen was made to dance not only the invocatory "Alaripu" with a degree of thoroughness but also some glimpses of the intricate "Tillana" that redounded to thecredit of her guru.

The little performancewas staged in the cosy home of Mr.E.K.Bryan, head of the Caltex establishment in Bangalore, on the cunningham Road last evening.

12

From

Vice-Admiral C.T.M.Pizey, C.B., D.S.O.

Naval Headquarters,
New Delhi, 9th August, 1952.

Dear Mr. Krishna Rao,

Thank you verymjch for the Dance performance you so kindly gave at Admiralis Hou se on Monday, the 5th August. All my guests, and particularly the officers and men of the Royal New Zealand Navy thoroughly enjoyed the performance and greatly appreciated the explanation of the rendering.

2. It would not be out of place for me to say that it was a unique opportunity for the New Zealanders to see and understand Indian dancing. Everyone of them commented on the excellence of your show.

3. So, May I say thank you once again, and hope that my wife and I will have further opportunities of seeingyour dances in the future.

Yours sincerely,

Sd.Mark Pizey.

Sri US.Krishna Rao,
Profy. of Chemistry,
Central College, Bangalore.

(TRUE COPY)

P.H.25/53-54.

The Palace,
Mysore, August 4, 1953.

Sri U.S.Krishna Rao,
86,,II Cross Road,
Seshadripuram, Bangalore- 3.

Dear Sir,

I am desired to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 3rd August 1953 and to say that it has been submitted to His Highness the Maharaja for his gracious perusal.

I am to add that His Highness was very greatly pleased with thedance performance of Srimathi Chandrabagha Devi and yourself on the 31st July 1953 and was sorry that he had to cut it short owing to other items on the programme that day. His Highness wishes you and Srimathi Chandrabagha Devi a bright future and success.

Yours faithfully,

Sd. S. Darashah.
Private Secretary to H.H.the Maharaja of Mysoore.

(TRUE COPY)

Deputy Minister
External Affairs, India,
New Delhi, 29th April 1958.

It was with real delight that we listened to the lecture demonstration of Sri U.S.Krishna Rao at the Lady Irwin College on the 6th of April 1958. Although most of us have seen Bharatiya Natyam and assumed that we know enough to understand it, it was only after listening to Sri Krishna Rao we realised how little we know of the beauty and meaning of the symbolism which lies embeded in the poetry of dancing. He revealed to us the depth of its meaning, the beauty of its poetry and the pattern of its structure. To those of us who listered to his exposition of Bharatiya Natyam, it will have a new meaning which will enrich our understanding of this great and ancient art.

Sd. Lakshmi N. Menon.

WEST END HOTEL,
Bangalore. 26.1.58

Thru the kindness of Mrs. Bryan I had the great privilege of seeing your dance recital at the Century Club.

I am flying around the world and have made the opportunity of seeing the most accomplished dancers in Japan, Thailand, Combodia and Kandy. Your beautiful dancing far surpassed anything I have witnessed.

The grace, vitality, charm and subtle interpretation of the classical forms is a joy to behld.

I hope America and especially San Francesco may have the opportunity in the not too distant future of applauding you. We should see more of the culture of India.

Sd.RUTH A TURNER

Fairmount Hotel,
San Francesco,
CALIFORNIA

CLASSICAL INDIAN DANCE

Morgon - Tidningen (November of 1957) published the following despatch from Bengt Hager - a famous impressario of Sweden and the Director of Dance Archives in Paris.

Shri U.S.Krishna Rao was the old man's (late SriMeenakshi Sundaram Pillai of Tanjore) disciple and thebest authorities certify that he maintains and carries on the old tradition in a more pure and strict form than anyone else .... It is a misconception in Europe that the Classical Indian Ballet consists of nothing but old, inherited compositions, that no choreography is made to-day. Onthe contrary, most of the prominent teachers have their own versions of the various types of dances .... Krishna Rao has the finest repertoir of classical choreography; he has not only the best of what old Meenakshisundaram created, he has also composed a number of master-pieces, exquisite in musical taste and form.

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